

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

March 16, 2018

The Honorable John Culberson
Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice,
Science, and Related Agencies
Committee on Appropriations
H-309, The Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable José Serrano
Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice,
Science, and Related Agencies
Committee on Appropriations
1016 Longworth HOB
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Culberson, and Ranking Member Serrano:

Drug courts and veterans treatment courts are among the most successful strategy in our nation's history for reducing crime among people with a substance use or mental health disorder. By holding these offenders accountable through strict supervision and treatment, drug courts and veterans treatment courts have saved billions of tax dollars and transformed the lives of over 1.25 million citizens and veterans. Today, these programs are on the front lines of the opioid epidemic and have become an indispensable resource to law enforcement and other community stakeholders impacted by opioid addiction and related crime.

As you consider the Fiscal Year 2019 appropriations, we ask for your support to ensure that continued funding is appropriated for drug courts and veterans treatment courts at the Department of Justice. The U.S. Government Accountability Office reported in 2011 that drug courts reduce crime by up to 58 percent. Research also shows that about 60 percent of drug court participants complete at least 12 months of treatment, as compared with only 10 percent of probationers and parolees.

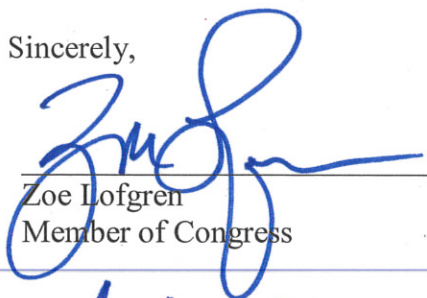
The drug court system – which requires nonviolent, drug-addicted offenders to remain in treatment and undergo random drug testing while under intensive judicial supervision – is now accepted as the most effective and fiscally responsible methods for holding Offenders with substance use disorders accountable.

The most comprehensive study on drug courts to date (the U.S. Department of Justice, National Institute of Justice's National Multi-Site Adult Drug Court Evaluation) concluded that drug courts provide an average cost savings of \$6,000 per participant.

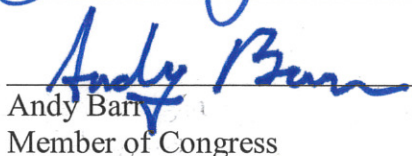
Veterans treatment courts utilize the highly successful drug court model to aid former members of the Armed Services who suffer from serious substance use disorders, mental health conditions or trauma. Veterans treatment courts save the lives, families, and futures of our veterans by holding them accountable in a highly structured program and connecting them with local, state, and federal resources.

We hope that you support the work of drug courts and veterans treatment courts in the Fiscal Year 2019 appropriations process. Thank you in advance for consideration of our request.

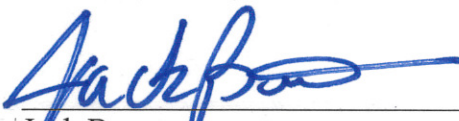
Sincerely,



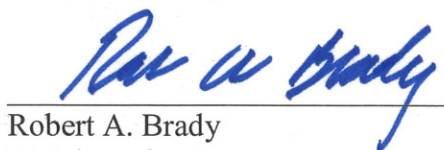
Zoe Lofgren
Member of Congress



Andy Barr
Member of Congress



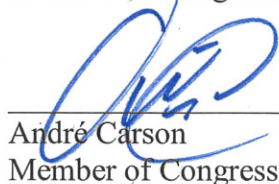
Jack Bergman
Member of Congress




Robert A. Brady
Member of Congress



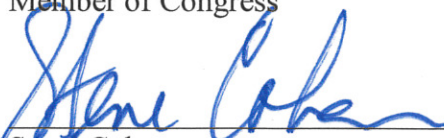
Salud O. Carbajal
Member of Congress



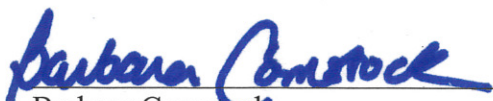
André Carson
Member of Congress



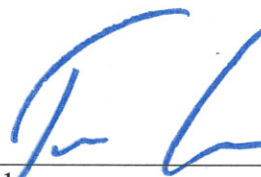
Yvette D. Clarke
Member of Congress



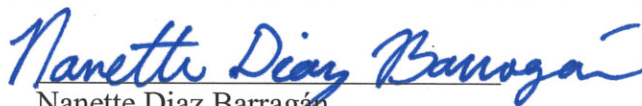
Steve Cohen
Member of Congress



Barbara Comstock
Member of Congress



Trey Gowdy
Member of Congress



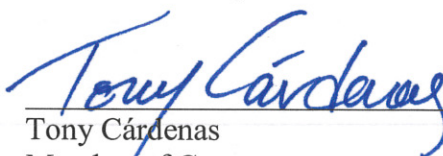
Nanette Diaz Barragán
Member of Congress



Earl Blumenauer
Member of Congress



Cheri Bustos
Member of Congress



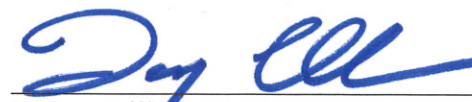
Tony Cárdenas
Member of Congress



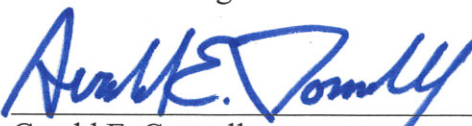
Joaquin Castro
Member of Congress



Mike Coffman
Member of Congress



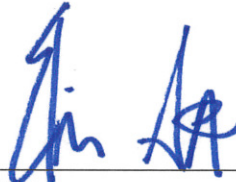
Doug Collins
Member of Congress



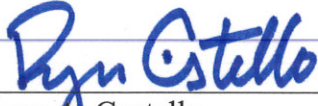
Gerald E. Connolly
Member of Congress



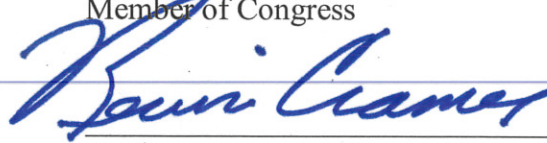
J. Luis Correa
Member of Congress



Jim Costa
Member of Congress



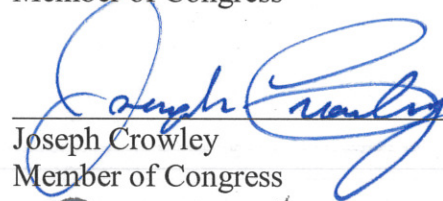
Ryan A. Costello
Member of Congress



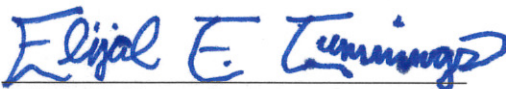
Kevin Cramer
Member of Congress



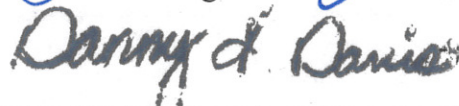
Charlie Crist
Member of Congress



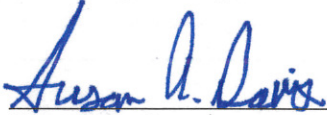
Joseph Crowley
Member of Congress



Elijah E. Cummings
Member of Congress



Danny K. Davis
Member of Congress



Susan Davis
Member of Congress



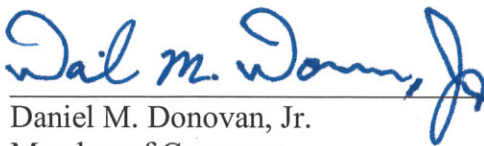
Peter A. DeFazio
Member of Congress



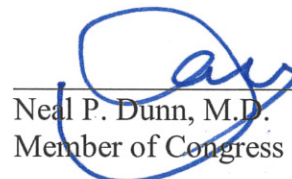
Mark DeSaulnier
Member of Congress



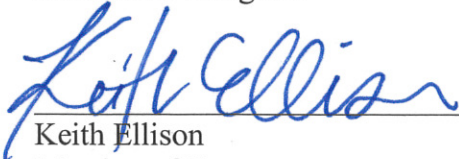
Debbie Dingell
Member of Congress



Daniel M. Donovan, Jr.
Member of Congress



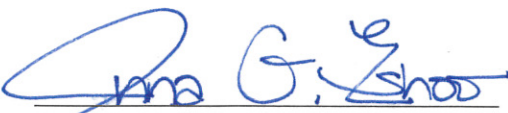
Neal P. Dunn, M.D.
Member of Congress



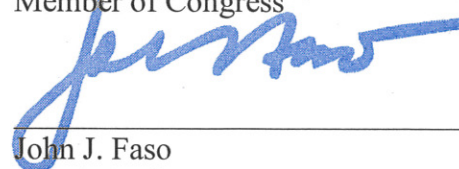
Keith Ellison
Member of Congress




Eliot L. Engel
Member of Congress




Anna G. Eshoo
Member of Congress

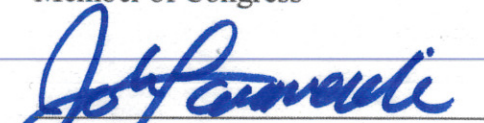



John J. Faso
Member of Congress



Brian Fitzpatrick
Member of Congress



Bill Foster
Member of Congress

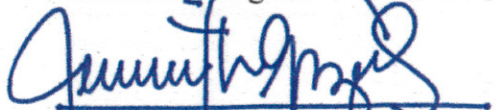

Tulsi Gabbard
Member of Congress

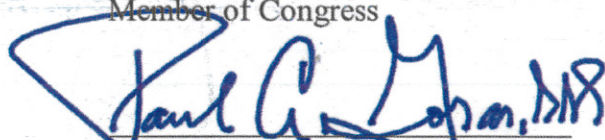

John Garamendi
Member of Congress



Tom Garrett
Member of Congress



Greg Gianforte
Member of Congress


Vicente Gonzalez
Member of Congress

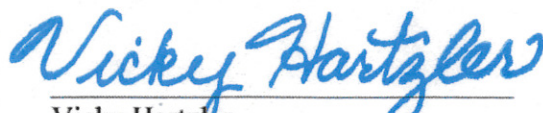

Jenniffer González-Colón
Member of Congress


Paul A. Gosar, D.D.S.
Member of Congress



Josh Gottheimer
Member of Congress


Al Green
Member of Congress


Michelle Lujan Grisham
Member of Congress


Vicky Hartzler
Member of Congress

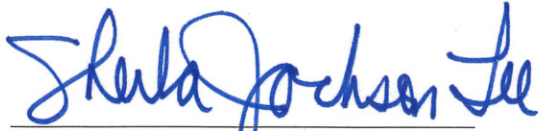

Jody Hice
Member of Congress


Brian Higgins
Member of Congress

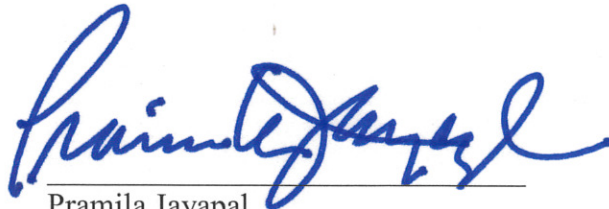

Clay Higgins
Member of Congress


Jim Himes
Member of Congress

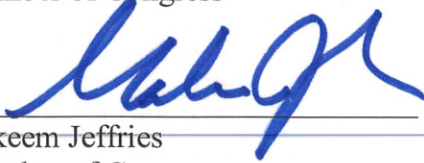

Richard Hudson
Member of Congress



Sheila Jackson Lee
Member of Congress



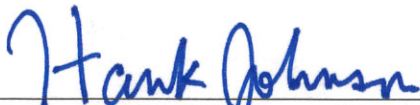
Pramila Jayapal
Member of Congress



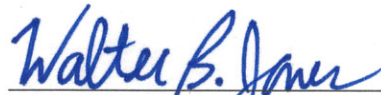
Hakeem Jeffries
Member of Congress



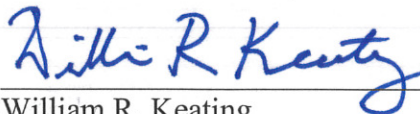
Eddie Bernice Johnson
Member of Congress



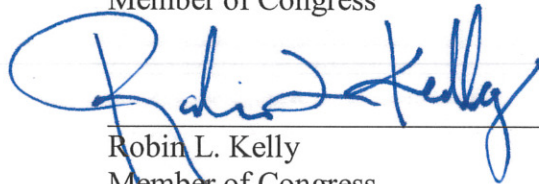
Henry C. "Hank" Johnson, Jr.
Member of Congress



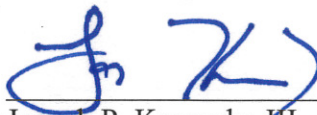
Walter B. Jones
Member of Congress



William R. Keating
Member of Congress



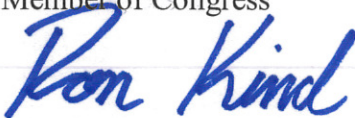
Robin L. Kelly
Member of Congress



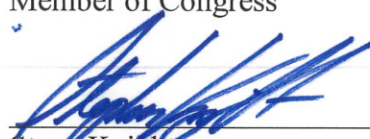
Joseph P. Kennedy, III
Member of Congress



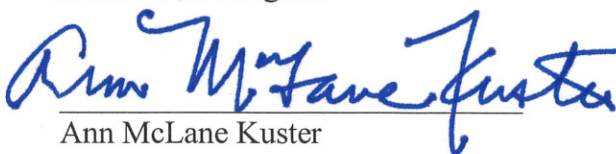
Ro Khanna
Member of Congress



Ron Kind
Member of Congress



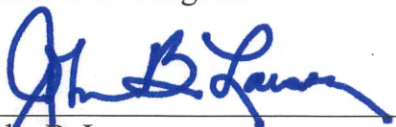
Steve Knight
Member of Congress



Ann McLane Kuster
Member of Congress



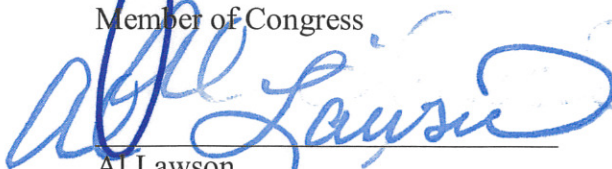
Rick Larsen
Member of Congress



John B. Larson
Member of Congress



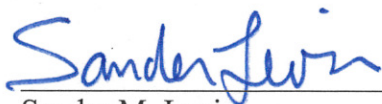
Brenda L. Lawrence
Member of Congress



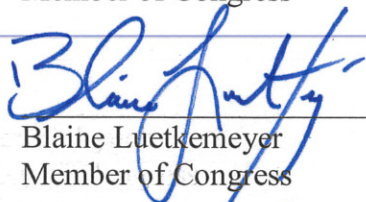
Al Lawson
Member of Congress



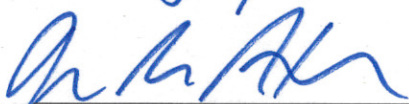
Barbara Lee
Member of Congress



Sander M. Levin
Member of Congress



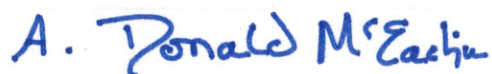
Blaine Luetkemeyer
Member of Congress



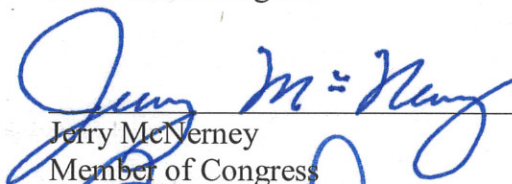
Thomas MacArthur
Member of Congress



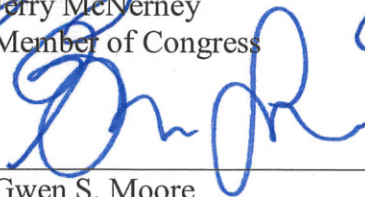
Tom Marino
Member of Congress



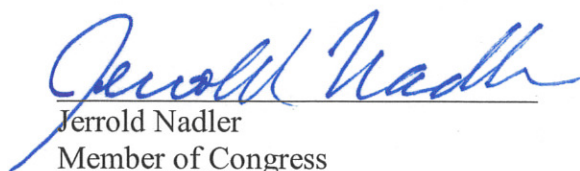
A. Donald McEachin
Member of Congress



Jerry McNerney
Member of Congress



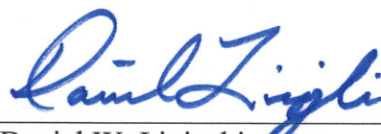
Gwen S. Moore
Member of Congress



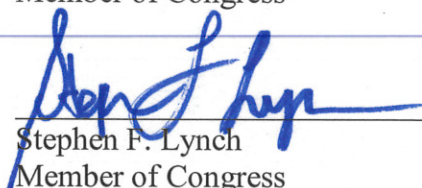
Jerrold Nadler
Member of Congress



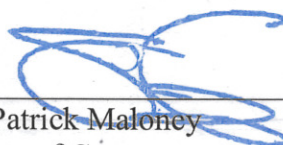
Eleanor Holmes Norton
Member of Congress



Daniel W. Lipinski
Member of Congress



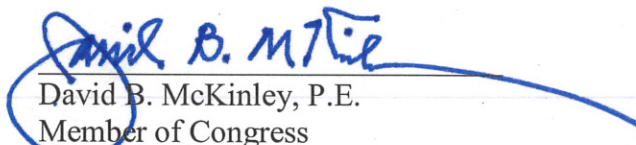
Stephen F. Lynch
Member of Congress



Sean Patrick Maloney
Member of Congress



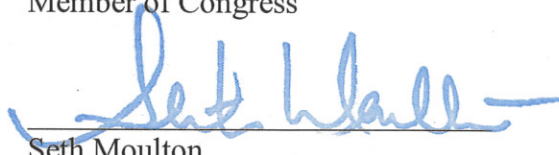
Doris Matsui
Member of Congress



David B. McKinley, P.E.
Member of Congress



Patrick Meehan
Member of Congress



Seth Moulton
Member of Congress



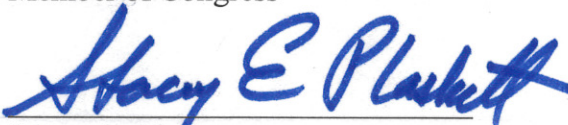
Donald Norcross
Member of Congress





Beto O'Rourke
Member of Congress



Jimmy Panetta
Member of Congress


Ed Perlmutter
Member of Congress


Stacey E. Plaskett
Member of Congress



Mike Quigley
Member of Congress



Jim Renacci
Member of Congress



Cedric L. Richmond
Member of Congress

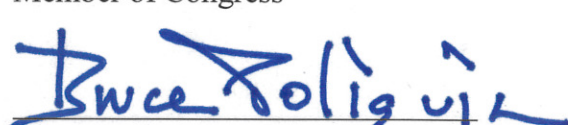

Jacky Rosen
Member of Congress

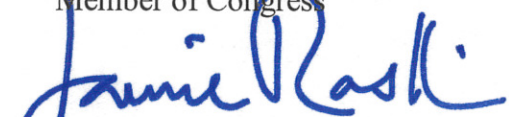

Gregorio Kilili Camacho Sablan
Member of Congress

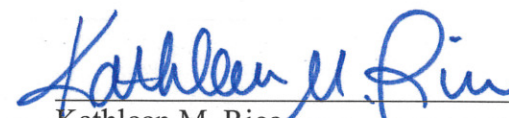

Jan Schakowsky
Member of Congress

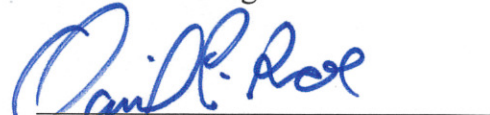

Donald M. Payne, Jr.
Member of Congress

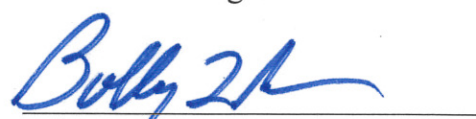

Chellie Pingree
Member of Congress

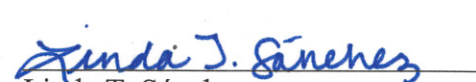

Bruce Poliquin
Member of Congress



Jamie Raskin
Member of Congress

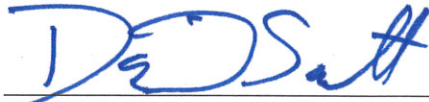

Kathleen M. Rice
Member of Congress


David P. Roe, M.D.
Member of Congress


Bobby L. Rush
Member of Congress


Linda T. Sánchez
Member of Congress


Kurt Schrader
Member of Congress



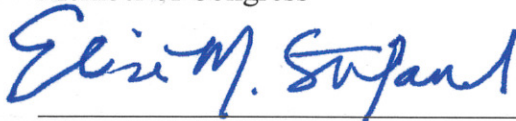
David Scott
Member of Congress



Terri A. Sewell
Member of Congress



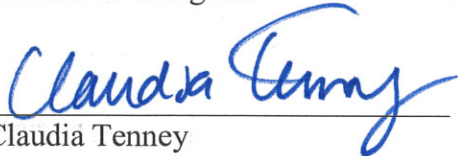
Louise Slaughter
Member of Congress



Elise M. Stefanik
Member of Congress



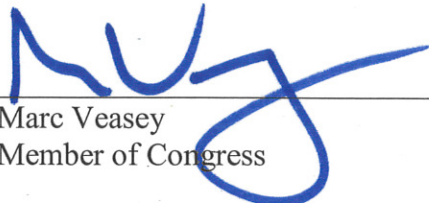
Eric Swalwell
Member of Congress



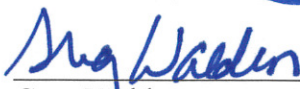
Claudia Tenney
Member of Congress



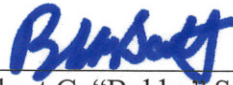
Dina Titus
Member of Congress



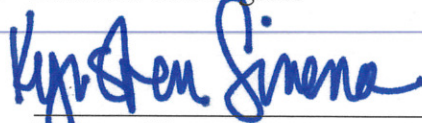
Marc Veasey
Member of Congress



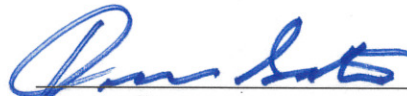
Greg Walden
Member of Congress




Robert C. "Bobby" Scott
Member of Congress



Kyrsten Sinema
Member of Congress



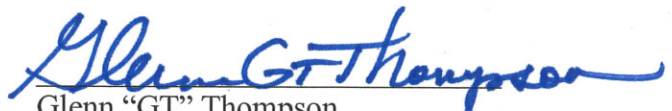
Darren Soto
Member of Congress



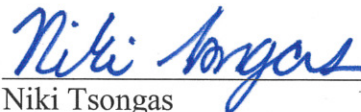
Steve Stivers
Member of Congress



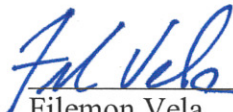
Mark Takano
Member of Congress



Glenn "GT" Thompson
Member of Congress



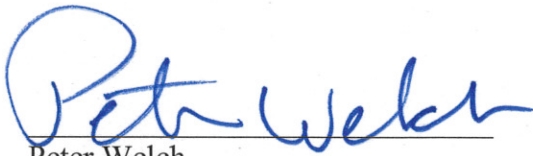
Niki Tsongas
Member of Congress



Filemon Vela
Member of Congress



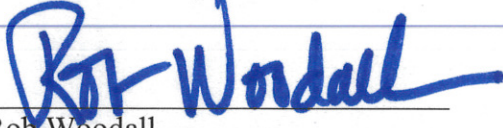
Bonnie Watson Coleman
Member of Congress



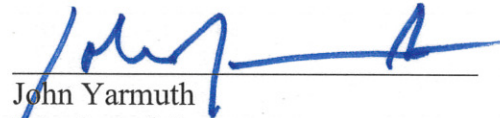
Peter Welch
Member of Congress



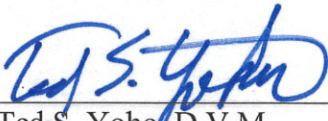
Frederica S. Wilson
Member of Congress



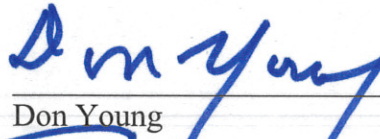
Rob Woodall
Member of Congress



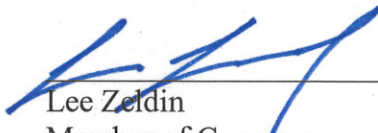
John Yarmuth
Member of Congress



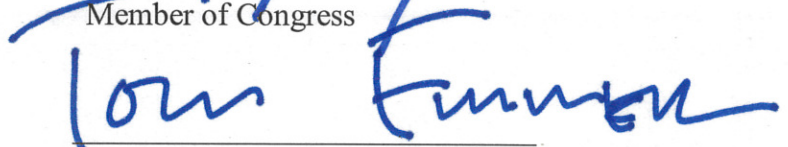
Ted S. Yoho, D.V.M.
Member of Congress



Don Young
Member of Congress



Lee Zeldin
Member of Congress



Tom Emmer
Member of Congress